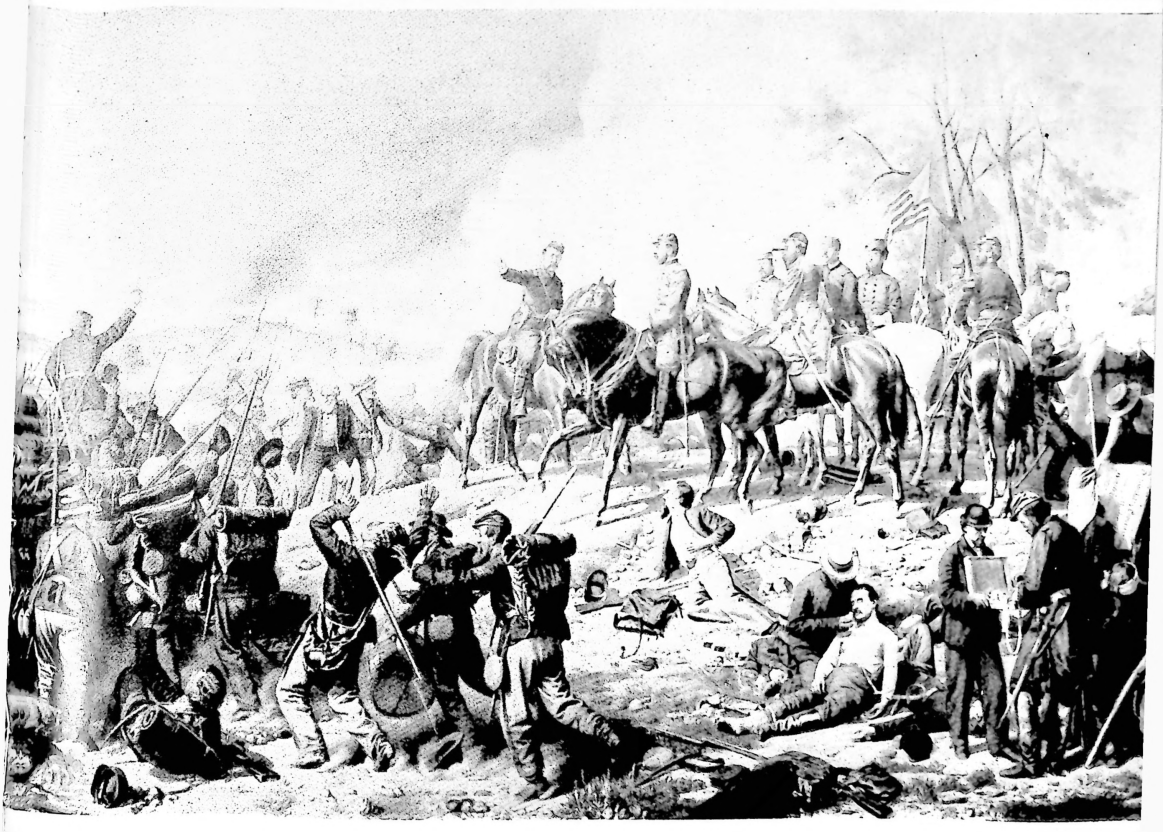
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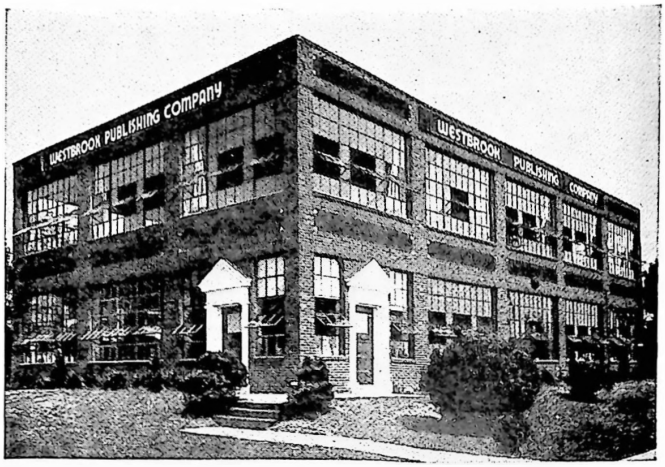
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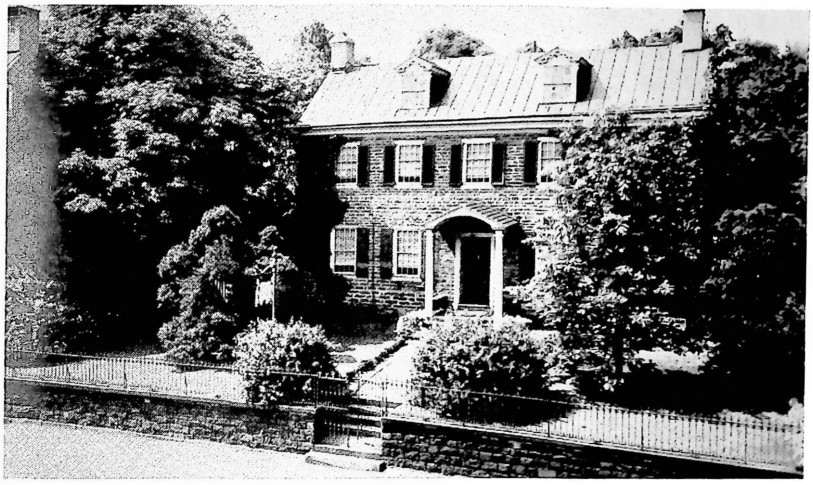
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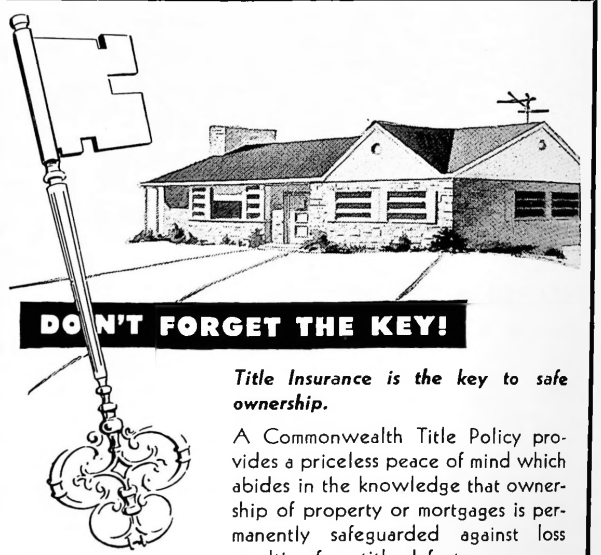
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Vol. 5 MARCH, 1953 No. 1

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# Museum Happenings

WE ARE glad to hear that our President Leighton P. Stradley is recovering from his severe illness. Mrs. Stradley reports that he is not yet able to take up his duties, but is doing very nicely and manages to get down to lunch and dine with his family.

During our president's absence, members of the Board of Managers have formed an executive committee to carry on the various duties of his office, and in so doing, appreciate more than ever how much he has done for the society.

Among the additions to the Historical Society's library during the last months of 1952 are "The Widow of the Rock and other Poems" by a Lady of Montreal, 1824. It contains verses on the death of General Agnew, and notes, and is the gift of Albert Thomas Von Trott; and a poster advertising a concert in Town Hall, April 29th, 1857, the gift of Mrs. Herbert J. Wetherill.

Other contributors during that period have been Mrs. W. H. Andrus, Mrs. Laura Maryland Carpenter, the Rev. Albert D. Bell, Leighton P. Stradley and Mrs. Robeson Lea Perot. Interesting items came from the Schwenkfelder Library at Pennsburg, the Morris Arboretum, Germantown Friends' School, Woman's Club of Germantown, through Mrs. C. C. Heyl, and three anonymous gifts were left in the museum for the library.

An unusual addition to the records of the society was donated January 13, 1953, by the Krauth Library, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mount Airy, through the librarian, Miss Margaret J. Hoyt. The gift consists of thirty-three life sized silhouettes (lacking black backgrounds), each inscribed with the name of the person portrayed. Most of these names are of local interest; there are fourteen members of the Billmeyer family in silhouette, five of the Paul family. Other families represented by one or two profiles are Ashmead, Johnson, Hamlin, Heyl, Garber, Hortter, Muhlenberg, Burt, Castor, Flowers, and two Kiltons from Boston.

The committee appointed for the purpose, have purchased a very handsome tea tray as a memorial to Mrs. Topliff Johnson. She was, at the time of her death, one of the oldest members of the society and unfailing in her work for historic Germantown. Her annual reports, as historian for the society, were treats to look forward to. She was chairman of the hospitality committee and served long on the board of governors. The tray was chosen to hold the silver urn already in possession of the society. It is somewhat later in date, from the hall marks, about 1830 or earlier, is ample in proportions, of Sheffield silver, with a crest in the center, a rope edge and heavy handles of solid silver.

A tree and bronze plaque, procured by funds raised from friends and associates in the Historical Society, and the Germantown Horticultural Society, has been placed in the garden of the Morris House, to honor the memory of Mrs. Caroline O. Timanus. The tree was planted at the far end of the garden, shortly before Christmas, by a memorial committee headed by Henry F. Riebe.

Pleasant news from our curator informs us that schools continue to avail themselves of the opportunity of visiting our Museum. Since the first of the year she has welcomed fifty pupils and three teachers from the Stevens school at 13th and Spring Garden Streets; thirty-eight pupils and one teacher from the John Story Jenks school; and twenty-three pupils and one teacher from the Fifth grade, Germantown Friends' School. The two latter groups also visited the Morris House.

## Membership and Publications

**Complete sets of the four volumes of the "Germantowne Crier" consisting of fifteen numbers issued to date, are being offered (on order) at Two dollars per set.**

**The remaining copies of the "Guide Book to Historic Germantown" will be sold at One dollar each; copies of "Washington in Germantown" at One dollar each, in board covers, and Fifty cents in paper covers, both of these books being the work of our founder and former president, Charles Francis Jenkins.**

**Volume One, numbers 1 to 10, of the old "Site and Relic Society's" publications, are for sale at the Museum, and also Volume Two, numbers 1 to 8. Some of the second volumes are in the name of the Germantown Historical Society, the older name being discontinued during that period. The prices of the separate numbers vary from 25c to $1. They can be purchased separately or the whole 18 copies can be bought for $7.50. The publications start from the very beginning of the Society, and many of the articles were written by old historians now dead, and constitute first hand information. An index comes free of charge for the first ten numbers, no index has been made of Volume Two.**

**New members are welcomed to the Society, and the present members have been encouraged to ask those interested in local history to join. Special rates for teachers, and juniors (under 25 years), $3.00 annually. Adult Membership, $6.00 annually. Life Membership in the Germantown Historical Society is $100, which may be paid in one payment, in four annual payments or in quarterly payments. All Memberships include the Germantowne Crier.**

GERMANTOWNE CRIER

Volume 5 MARCH, 1953 Number 1

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND PENNSYLVANIA

By Dr. S. K. Stevens, *State Historian*

FEW think of Abraham Lincoln as having an significant association with Pennsylvania's history other than possibly the delivery of the Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863. In reality, the story of the Great Emancipator has many Pennsylvania facets of great interest. Some are more than merely interesting; they are vital to understanding his rise to fame.

Lincoln never bothered much about his ancestry. There is no evidence he ever knew much about his family background. He did know that his forebears came from Pennsylvania in Berks County. While a member of Congress in 1848 he wrote his cousin Dan Lincoln asking "What was your father's Christian name? Was he a Quaker? At what time did he emigrate from Berks County to Virginia?" The same year he wrote another cousin saying, "We have a vague tradition that my grandfather went from Pennsylvania to Virginia and that he was a Quaker."

Though Lincoln thus appears to have had but a vague idea of this family background, and never learned much more, it is this ancestral connection with Pennsylvania which gives us our first basis for discussing Lincoln's connections with our Commonwealth. Lincoln was right. His ancestors had lived in Pennsylvania and were of Quaker stock, and they had moved to Virginia. Lincoln's great-great grandfather was Mordecai Lincoln. He came to Berks County from New Jersey about 1730. There he bought several hundred acres of land. He built a small stone house, but it was indeed a sturdy one because it is still standing near Birdsboro. Mordecai was a respected citizen of this then still somewhat frontier community. He served as justice of the peace and he was road inspector, all tokens of leadership in a frontier community. Mordecai died about 1735 and his elder son John Lincoln, the great grandfather of Abraham, became an even larger landholder. He owned property in both Berks and Lancaster counties.

Sometime in the 1760's John Lincoln moved to Virginia. Just why—no one knows. In those days families often left substantial homes and prosperous surroundings just because they had a restless urge to move to some new country. Daniel Boone's father, Squire Boone, who lived just a few miles from the Lincolns in the 1730's had also been a prosperous weaver and farmer and he too decided even earlier to move down the Cumberland and Shenandoah valleys to a new home. There were plenty of Lincolns left behind. One of them was named Abraham—a great uncle of the President. A Berks County jury list of 1773 presents a not altogether flattering picture of the Pennsylvania Abraham. It reads:

> "No. 3. Abraham. A country-born Englishman. An illiterate man and apt to be influenced by the pleadings of lawyers: apt to be intoxicated with Drink."

There were cousins of Abraham Lincoln still living in Berks County when he was elected President.

John Lincoln, who had left Berks County for Virginia, had a son Thomas. Thomas was likewise restless and he moved from Virginia into Kentucky, not long removed from the terrible days of Indian wars and the heroic exploits of one Daniel Boone—another Pennsylvania lad who had moved West. On February 12, 1809, Thomas Lincoln's wife gave birth to a son and he was named Abraham, an old Lincoln family first name. Thomas Lincoln finally ended up in Illinois on another and new frontier. It was on Illinois soil that his son Abraham was to grow into one of America's greatest men.

No one paid any attention to Lincoln's Pennsylvania background and, as we have seen, he himself knew only vaguely of it. When Lincoln ran for President in 1860, the politicos remembered it and it was well that they did because Pennsylvania was a traditionally Democratic state and badly needed to support the infant Republican Party. The famous German liberal,

Carl Schurz, was sent to Reading to preside at a great political rally designed to woo Democrats into the Republican camp. Berks County was a tough place to do it for it was, and still is to a large extent, strongly Democratic in its politics. It was hailed widely as a Gibraltar of Democracy. Despite Lincoln's Berks background and despite the oratory of Carl Schurz pleading with fellow German-Americans, Berks County Democrats closed enough ears to the siren song to keep the County in the Democratic column by a few hundred votes. After Lincoln was elected, jubilant citizens of Reading tried their best to get him to visit the city en route to Washington—but without avail.



**Lincoln Homestead,Berks County, Pa.**

So much for Lincoln's Pennsylvania ancestry. The rise of Lincoln to prominence as a national figure was very slow. Several Pennsylvanians had quite a bit to do with helping to make Lincoln a national figure and eventually placing him in the White House. One of those men was David Wilmot, tho he was not conscious that he was doing things which had the slightest connection with the career of a man named Lincoln. David Wilmot was a fellow member of Congress with Lincoln in the 1840s. Wilmot was born at Bethany in Wayne County and practiced law at Towanda. He represented the northeastern Pennsylvania district in Congress as a Democrat. Like many other northern Democrats he was lukewarm, if not actually opposed, to the War with Mexico, looking upon it as in part at least an effort of the South to get its hands on potential slave territories.

President James K. Polk was an ardent expansionist. In 1846 he had introduced in Congress an appropriation bill to provide expenses for the peace negotiation with Mexico. A group of northern Democrats prepared and David Wilmot introduced an amendment to this appropriation act which would have prohibited slavery or involuntary servitude in any part of any territory acquired from Mexico. There were Democratic votes from the South to defeat the amendment, which went down in history as the famous Wilmot Proviso. In varied forms the same principle was tacked on to other bills, and always defeated. But the Wilmot Proviso became the first rallying point for the slowly growing sentiment in the North against a farther extension of the boundaries of slave territory. It was this issue which set the stage for Abraham Lincoln's career.

This did not end David Wilmot's role in activities which helped Lincoln, if indirectly. As time went on, many of Wilmot's political activities were to influence Lincoln's rise to the presidency. After 1854 and the Kansas-Nebraska Act, with its consequences of virtual civil war on a small scale in "bleeding Kansas", the Dred Scott Decision, and other notable events, the conflict over slavery deepened and spread. Many of the one-time stalwarts of the Democratic Party north of Mason and Dixon's Line deserted it to take part in forming the new Republican Party. One of the very active leaders in this work was David Wilmot. He took a leading role in the first meeting of Republicans at Pittsburgh held on Washington's birthday in 1856 to consider plans for a national political organization. It was at this meeting that it was decided to issue a call for a national convention of the Republican Party to meet in Philadelphia in June. Lincoln's name was before this convention, though not seriously considered. Wilmot went on to become the state chairman of the Republicans in Pennsylvania and the Party's first candidate for Governor. Wilmot ranks as one of the dozen or so men who helped organize the political party which finally placed Lincoln in the White House.

When the second national convention of the Republican Party met at Chicago in May, 1860, in the Wigwam a lot of water had flowed over the dam since 1856. The name of Abraham Lincoln was second on the first ballot when the Convention settled down to the business of selecting a man who, it was fondly hoped, would carry the party to the victory it had failed to win under John C. Fremont in 1856. At long last, Lincoln had become something more than an Illinois politician unknown to most of the nation at large. Joseph J. Lewis, publisher of the little *Chester County Times* at West Chester, Pennsylvania, can be given a lot of credit for making this transformation possible.

It is hard today to remember that Lincoln was slow to achieve national recognition. Even the Lincoln-Douglas debates had been a local political contest and, while attracting some national attention because of the great Stephen A. Douglas, had not been long remembered in terms of Abraham Lincoln. After the defeat of Lincoln in this contest, he became simply another "also ran" for the Senate. Aside from an address at Cooper Union in New York there had been little to keep Lincoln in the public eye. He was something of an unknown. The few who saw in him a leader of the new Republican Party were hard pressed to even inform people as to who Lincoln was.

Lincoln himself helped little. His good friend Jesse Fell in Bloomington, sensed the need for information on Lincoln. Just who was this man Lincoln? people were asking. Fell persuaded Lincoln to write something about himself and his background. What he got from the lanky rail splitter was a disappointment. Lincoln wrote exactly 600 words about himself and

ended by writing to Fell that, "There is not much of it for the reason, I suppose, that there is not much of me."

Several hundreds of miles away Joseph Lewis in West Chester had become an ardent Lincoln booster. He too wanted something to tell his readers about this man Lincoln. In desperation he wrote to Fell. Fell dressed up and lengthened the sketch Lincoln had given him, adding some information as to his stand on certain questions—not forgetting the tariff—and sent it on to Lewis. Incidentally, Lincoln's own sketch had mentioned his Pennsylvania Quaker origins in Berks County. On February 11, 1860, the *Chester County Times* blossomed forth with a biographical sketch on Abraham Lincoln. Believe it or not, this was the first published account which provided anything in the way of a sketch of Lincoln and his ideas on national questions. Fell had done a good job, increasing Lincoln's own sketch about six times in length. As published in the *Chester County Times*, the story attracted wide attention. It was picked up and reprinted everywhere—even in Chicago on the edge of the Lincoln country. It was the answer to the question every Lincoln supporter was being asked and could not answer, "Who is Lincoln anyway? What does he stand for and why should anyone think of him as presidential timber?" The most authoritative students of Lincoln's quest for the presidency credit the West Chester originated story with putting Lincoln into the forefront among at least five major candidates for the nomination at Chicago.

Almost all, if not all, were better known than Lincoln. Strongest among them was the redoubtable William A. Seward of New York. Seward led on the first ballot with 173½ ballots. Seward, however, was known as one of the more radical Republicans and definitely offensive to those of moderate views who sought compromise in meeting the current crisis. Simon Cameron, who in the face of bitter opposition, had made himself the "boss" of the Republican Party in Pennsylvania had a following with 50½ votes on the first ballot—third place. David Wilmot was at the convention and had been its temporary chairman. Wilmot hated Cameron and threw all his influence against him. Andrew Gregg Curtin, a stalwart of the now decadent Whig Party and the man who was to become the first Republican Governor of Pennsylvania, was also there. Curtin likewise was an opponent of Cameron and also a bitter foe of Seward. On the second ballot 48 of Pennsylvania's ballots went to Lincoln. Cameron saw that he had no chance for the nomination and sought the best deal he could make. Unknown to Lincoln, his friend and campaign manager, Judge David Davis of Illinois, negotiated a behind-the-scenes agreement with Cameron promising the Pennsylvanian a cabinet appointment in return for throwing all his influence and votes behind Lincoln. The result was Lincoln's nomination on the third ballot—and some embarrassing problems with Simon Cameron at a later date. Thus, each in his own way, no less than three Pennsylvanians helped secure the actual nomination for Lincoln at Chicago.

Nomination for the presidency is not necessarily the equivalent of election. For sixty years Pennsylvania had been a stronghold of the Democratic Party—ever since Washington and Hamilton had levied a tax upon western Pennsylvania's rye whiskey and broken the back of the ensuing Whiskey Insurrection with armed force. Nor had the good Pennsylvania German farmers of eastern Pennsylvania forgotten the Federal tax snoopers who tried to count the windows in their houses in order to levy the house tax. They remembered well how their good wives had opened upstairs windows to pour boiling hot water on the Federal agents. Or how poor John Fries of Bucks County had been arrested and tried for treason on the order of Federalist President John Adams when he led the people in resisting the house tax. And even now Pennsylvania's great Democratic leader—James Buchanan, good "old Buc", was in the White House, ably assisted on his right hand by Jeremiah Sullivan Black of Somerset County, former chief justice of Pennsylvania's Supreme Court, and now variously Attorney General and Secretary of State in Buchanan's cabinet. Lincoln would have a hard time winning the presidency without Pennsylvania's votes and a hard time indeed winning them. Pennsylvania was one of the most crucial states in the election of 1860.

Democrats never let an election interfere with a good party row. Republicans are equally notable for their ability to bury the hatchet and team together when the chips are down. Actually, there was hardly such a thing as a Republican Party in Pennsylvania in 1860—so many had been the feuds and conflicts among the leaders of various factions among former Democrats, old-time Whigs and new Republicans. A People's Party was hastily thrown together to support Andrew Gregg Curtin for Governor in opposition to the Democratic candidate. To all intents and purposes it was a Republican Party. Lacking an effective national organization because it had yet to win a national election, the Republican effort in 1860 of necessity had to consist of a series of battles for control of several key states. Pennsylvania's gubernatorial election in those days was held in October and all eyes were on the Keystone State. When Curtin carried the state over the Democrats and swept with him Republican control of the General Assembly, Lincoln leaders breathed easier. In November Lincoln carried Pennsylvania by a sizeable majority. Again, Pennsylvania had helped Lincoln.

In February, 1861, a deeply troubled man left Springfield, Illinois, to start a journey to Washington. He could not even be sure that the nation's capital would still be in the hands of the Federal government when he arrived. It might be seized by seceding Southerners. State after state was breaking time honored ties with the Union framed at Philadelphia in 1787. Lincoln paused at Pittsburgh for one of several addresses. Pointing toward Virginia, which once had claimed this portion of Pennsylvania as its own, Lincoln declared "there is no crisis but an artificial

one." "Let the people on both sides of the line keep their self-possession and just as other clouds have cleared away in due time, so will this great Nation continue to prosper as heretofore . . .," pleaded Lincoln in vain. It was wishful thinking but it shows that Lincoln still hoped for conciliation and compromise and had not yet accepted the finality of secession. The South paid no attention and Lincoln's enemies in the North laughed at him and termed him an ignorant ape. Just then Lincoln was one of the most pitiful persons in all our history. Many even of his own Party lacked faith in his ability or good sense. Those were Abraham Lincoln's darkest hours.

Lincoln was in Philadelphia on February 21 and there he learned of the plot uncovered independently by Army intelligence and by the Pinkerton detective agency to assassinate him in Baltimore on his way to Washington two days later. He was urged to leave at once to avoid the threat. This Lincoln refused to do. Early on the morning of the 22nd, Washington's Birthday, he took part in flag raising and patriotic ceremonies at Independence Hall. In a brief and usually overlooked address he said: "All the political sentiments I entertain have been drawn, so far as I have been able to draw them, from the sentiments which originated in and were given to the world from this hall." He went on to explain something we need to remember today—the world encompassing philosophy of freedom and democracy stated in the Declaration of Independence. "I have often inquired of myself," said Lincoln, "what great principle or idea it was that kept this Confederacy so long together." He went on to say; "It was not the mere matter of separation of the colonies from the motherland, but that sentiment in the Declaration of Independence which gave liberty not alone to the people of this country, *but to all the world, for all future time.* It was that which gave promise that in due time the weights would be lifted from the shoulders of *all men*, and that all should have an equal chance." He ended by saying with great sincerity, "But if THIS country cannot be saved without giving up THAT principle, I was about to say I would rather be assassinated on the spot than surrender it . . ." Lincoln added "My friends, this is wholly an unprepared speech . . . I may, therefore, have said something indiscreet. (Audience shouts; "No, no.") But I have said nothing, but what I am willing to live by, and if it be the pleasure of Almighty God, to die by."

The same day Lincoln went on to Harrisburg. There he must have gained some strength and confidence. A stirring review of Pennsylvania volunteers in company with Governor Curtin was accompanied by strong pledges of the support of the manpower and resources of a great Commonwealth. To Curtin's speech of welcome and support Lincoln again stated the basis for his political philosophy and his humble appraisal of his own strength.

"I feel that, under God, in the strength of the arms and wisdom of the heads of these masses, after all, must be my support. As I have often had occasion to say, I repeat to you—I am quite sure I do not deceive myself when I tell you that I bring to the work an honest heart; I dare not tell you that I bring a head sufficient for it. If my own strength should fail, I shall at least fall back upon these masses, who, I think, under any circumstances will not fail."

At six o'clock that evening, Lincoln left a banquet in his honor, and departed in deep secrecy for Washington. This measure was taken to insure his safety and at the urgent request of Curtin and others.

Lincoln next returned to Pennsylvania on November 18, 1863, to deliver the next day the immortal Gettysburg Address. I shall not go into the details of this visit. Lincoln came in response to a casual and ordinary invitation to attend the ceremonies dedicating a memorial cemetery to the heroic dead of the epochal battle in July. The committee did not expect him to accept and, when he did, were in a great dither because Edward Everett had been invited as the orator of the day. Lamely, they asked the President for a few "appropriate remarks." Some of the "remarks" he delivered were roughed out before he arrived at Gettysburg on the 18th to spend the night at the Wills house. The Gettysburg Address we know beyond question was finally completed and written out the evening of November 18 in that house, which still stands on the Square in Gettysburg. Once more Lincoln noted that the cause of liberty was a world cause. He said that the civil war was testing whether our nation ". . . or any nation" which was "conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal" can "long endure."

On June 16, 1864, Lincoln came to Philadelphia to speak at the great Sanitary Fair held to raise war relief funds. He spoke of the "terrible" war which had deranged business, destroyed property and lives, and produced "a national debt and taxation unprecedented, at least in this country." He spoke also of the value of the great work of the Sanitary Commission and the Christian Commission to the soldiers in the field and to the sick and the wounded of the war. He answered the question ever present in every mind—"when is the war to end?" The day, the month, or even the year, he said he could not name. He did say, "We accepted this war for an object, a worthy object, and the war will end when that object is attained. Under God, I hope it will never end until that time."

Back of Lincoln's renewed determination that the war must be fought through to a successful achieving of the ideal of national union had been strengthened by the strong support he received from Pennsylvania and its great war governor—Andrew Gregg Curtin. Curtin must be rated as one of Lincoln's strongest supporters and ever present advisors. He ruined his health in serving the cause of the Union. It was Cur-

tin who had called the governors of the loyal states together at Altoona in September, 1862, to reaffirm their support of Lincoln and the Union when discontent had reared its ugly head and threatened the success of the war effort. In Congress Thaddeus Stevens was a conspicuous leader. Galusha Grow from Susquehanna County, served as Speaker of the House from 1861 to 1863. When Simon Cameron was forced out of the Cabinet as Secretary of War, the post was taken by Edward Stanton, one-time Pittsburgh lawyer. Thomas A. Scott, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, was Assistant Secretary of War and organized the highly vital wartime transportation system of the Federal Government. Jay Cooke of Philadelphia was the "financier of the Civil War," even as Robert Morris and Stephen Girard in the Revolution and the War of 1812. At every turn, Pennsylvania and Pennsylvanians were helping Lincoln to keep the calm resolve that the union could not perish and liberty die in America.

When Lincoln spoke in Philadelphia in the warm spring of 1864 the end was nearer than he thought. Ten months later came Appomatox and the collapse of the Confederate States of America. Then in April, 1865, came the despicable deed by Booth. Late in April, 1865, as the leaves and buds of Spring were springing into life all over the sunlit hills and valleys of Pennsylvania a funeral train wound its slow way back to Springfield in Illinois carrying the body of the martyred Lincoln. He, himself, had given that last full measure of devotion.

Today, among the many proud traditions of our Commonwealth, none is cherished more highly than those associated with Abraham Lincoln. Through his forebears he was a son of Pennsylvania. The great ideals of liberty and humanity for which he lived and died were upheld in his lifetime on every hand by sons of Pennsylvania. Today, we should realize as a people that the price of liberty is truly eternal vigilance. Liberty is never secure, despite the sacrifices and leadership of Lincoln and others. In our time it is well to re-study Lincoln's life and utterances as a guide for a sturdy faith and a determination that once more we shall not end a war until the true objectives of freedom are made secure.

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The old freight station at Broad and Washington Ave. was once the Grand Terminal Passenger Depot of the main, and in fact, the only line to Wilmington and points South.

They brought John Brown's body northward through this station, after he was hanged in December 1859. Because feeling ran so high, an empty box was brought out the front entrance, where the Abolitionists were waiting, and the real coffin was rushed in a wagon from a back gate down to Walnut Street ferry connecting with the New York train.

Fourteen months later, in February, 1861, there was another secret operation, when Abraham Lincoln was on his way South for his first inauguration. Firebrands in Baltimore plotted his assassination, and he had to be smuggled across town in a hack, from the West Philadelphia station, where he came in secretly from Harrisburg, to the Washington Avenue depot. There about 10.45 P. M., he walked through the freight yard and got on a special car.

Casualties from the Federal defeat at First Bull Run came here in August, 1861, and some of the wounded overflowed into old St. Teresa's Church at Broad and Catherine Streets. For a dumpy not to say downright ugly building, the Washington Avenue freight station is haunted by a lot of exciting memories.

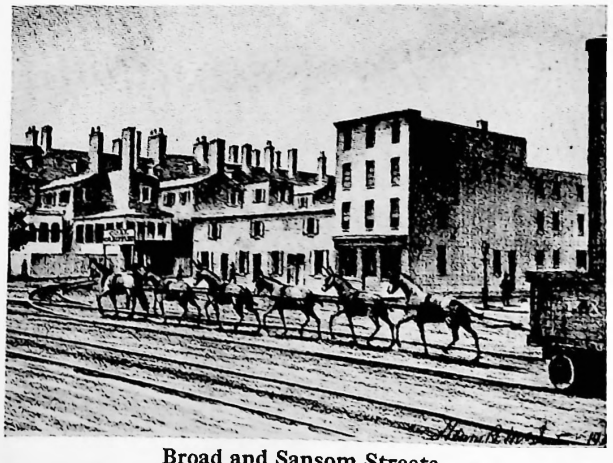
From *Candid Shots* by PAUL JONES
*Evening Bulletin* 6 Mo. 30th. 1950.

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# Reprint from Penn-Gazette

BY DR. GEORGE E. NITZSCHE

In 1892, I saw my first college football game when Pennsylvania defeated Princeton, 6–4, on the Manheim Cricket grounds in Germantown. This was before we had a Franklin Field, and I presume the few thousands present were a record-breaking crowd. As I recall that game, there was practically no singing, but lots of cheering. However the Pennsylvania cheers of that day are no longer heard, except the famous "Hoo-Rah," and even that has become almost obsolete.



**Broad and Sansom Streets**
**Now the Union League**

# From a Germantown Diary – 1863

*Introduction by* STANLEY R. YARNALL

EARLY last summer a diary was found in an old book shop, bearing the inscription, "Hannah R. Haines, Linden Street, Germantown, 1863." The entries began: "6 Mo. 29th. Yesterday the rumors about town concerning Lee's invasion depressed us all very much."

The finder of the diary, believing it to be of historic importance offered it to the GERMANTOWN CRIER for publication. One of the editors hunting information soon found that Linden Street was the old name for West Penn Street, East Penn, then being called Shoemaker's Lane, but the identity of the writer could not be discovered.

Various members of the Haines family were asked and finally the quaint square board-bound copy book was loaned for advice to one of the family who was on her way to pay us a visit at our camp on the Rancocas and brought the book along. On opening it and reading a few moments she handed it to me saying, "This is not about our Germantown Haineses at all." In an equally short time I discovered to my surprise that the author of the diary was my second cousin, Hannah Rhoads Haines, at the time of writing about seventeen years of age. Later she became the wife of John Biddle Garrett, of the Garrett family who lived in the large square house, now demolished, at the corner of Greene and Coulter Streets. His brother, Philip Cresson Garrett, was one of the leading citizens of Philadelphia who took a prominent part in the organization of the Committee of Seventy, still a power for civic betterment in our city. John B. Garrett also became one of the leading Quakers of his generation, an organizer and later President of the Girard Trust Company, and the Vice-President of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, active in the development of Haverford and Bryn Mawr colleges, with many interests in fields of philanthropy and international friendship. The home he and his wife established at "Clovercroft" Rosemont was for many years the centre of gracious hospitality and broad cultural and religious influence, gratefully remembered by the very large group of relations and friends included in their outreach.

The young diarist was the daughter of Dr. Haines of Muncy, Pennsylvania. A young doctor of fine character and professional promise who died a few years after establishing his practice in the neighborhood of Springfield, Delaware County, Penna. After his death his widow, "dear Cousin Mary," as we all knew her, came to Germantown, with her mother the widow of Joseph Rhoads of the Quaker family of Marple, Delaware County, Pa.

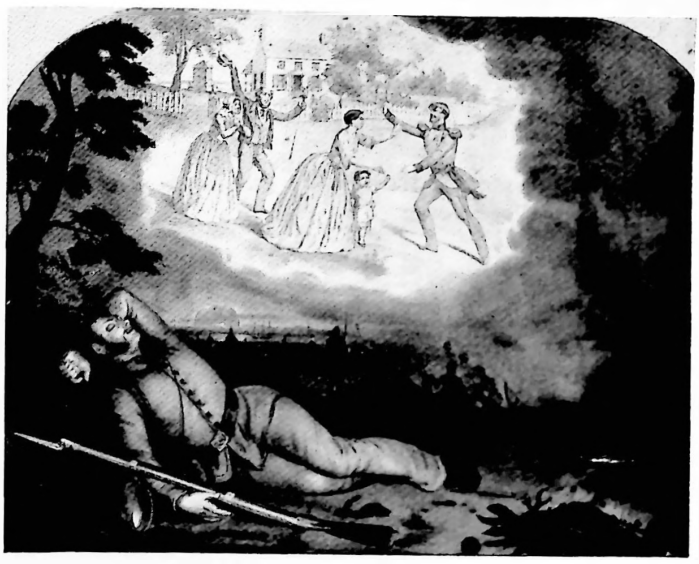
Hannah's uncle, Dr. James E. Rhoads, then one of the leading doctors of Germantown, was living on Greene Street. He was the uncle of our beloved Dr. Edward G. Rhoads of later date, and the great uncle of Dr. Jonathan Rhoads, recognized as one of the great younger surgeons of Philadelphia, whose home is on Walnut Lane.

Dr. James E. Rhoads became the first President of Bryn Mawr college and his family appear frequently in the diary. One could make a long list of the Germantown families named in the diary, all introduced naturally and invariably in connection with a full active and interesting life.

The Garretts, mentioned above, who lived only a block away from the Linden Street home, the Aertsens, one of whom was Hannah's most intimate friend, Copes, Evanses, Hackers, Morrises, Stokes, Woods, Wisters and Wistars and their homes and gardens. It was a busy life with plenty of housekeeping details, visiting, entertainment, shopping, sewing, cooking, preserving, including considerable raspberry vinegar, with reference also to reading, and Friends' Meetings, studying French and Latin, with two Latin Quotations, and an expression of satisfaction that her study of Horace's "Odes" went well on vacation, and the hope that real school would begin soon again, "'Tis so dull just to keep poking over those 'Odes' by myself."

The diary ends thus on the last line in the book: "Uncle James has just come over from Uncle Charles, and I am to go home with him and stay till tomorrow at meeting time. Shall I write another book of such vital interest to Posterity, or leave this much and no more to prove my ability?"

Well she did write two more, one still remains marked 3, but in 3 there is a reference to 2 with the statement that no one shall ever see it for it is "sacred" having to do with her marriage, which took place four years after her first diary was written. Let us hope that 2 has disappeared forever as she wished. One and three are now safely in the hands of her daughter, Mrs. Henry S. Williams, of Haverford, who secured them as soon as she learned of their existence. Neither of her daughters nor any one else, apparently, had ever heard of the diaries. How they came into the possession of the old book dealer is a



**A Soldier's Dream on the Battlefield. From a Currier and Ives print in the Civil War Room of the Germantown Historical Society Museum**

mystery. It is all the more surprising as her family cherished all such memories, and her mother, Mary Rhoads Haines was the author of *Clovercroft Chronicals*, one of the most delightful records of Quaker family life of the period.

Now for the diary itself written in a clear copperplate hand that in spite of perfection has true refinement and character. After the opening sentence about Lee's invasion she continues: "In the afternoon there was a meeting of the Union League at the armory to decide on prompt measures for defence of our State Capitol, and our own city. Mother and E. went to T. C. Garrett's in the evening to find out if possible the true state of affirs. I read Keith on Fulfilment of the Prophecies, to keep my mind in a degree from dwelling on the horror, and misery which seems impending. Great as is the excitement among us it is still impossible to realize the fact that there is no human power to resist the march of the Rebels into our midst. Lee is said to be aided by Hill and Longstreet and to be at the head of 37,000 men at the lowest computation, 95 or 100,000 some say.

Grandmother and Aunt D. have come from Haddonfield, and very glad were we to have them again, if the worst comes, at least we will be together now. They brought sad accounts, Rebels within 4 miles of Harrisburg and the valley of the Susquehanna is given up to pillage—martial law is to be proclaimed in this city as soon as the present activity in the enlistment flags.

6 Mo. 30th. Mother and Aunt D. went to Frankford Monthly Meeting this morning. I staid in the house ironing and sewing, till just before dinner, when I went out, but could hear of no more encouraging news. They are sending troops from here to repel Lee, but what can these hastily collected recruits do against the trained regiments of Southerners?

It is very difficult not to forget our principles as a Society of non-resistance. I was brought to think today how far I was a Friend by being asked if I thought I was talking in a Friendly manner. I was to make some preserves and raspberry vinegar this week, but I've no notion if my enemy thirst to give him to drink of raspberry vinegar, or to eat of the best I can find. Plain food is quite as much as they deserve and little more.

Cousin Wister came to tea and H. and K. and E. Hacker in the evening Uncle called in the course of the evening and that was for an animated discussion, the signal, on the chance of Phila.'s surrender, and the known fact that in all our North there is no general can cope with Lee. Johnny has sprained his foot so he may escape trouble from the draft. Hooker is superceded by Mead on the Potomac.

7 Mo. 1st. Every one is talking of McClellan's recall to command of the U. S. forces. No one I have seen lately has any confidence in any other general and very little on him. The enemy is active, very active in all quarters at present, even threatening the army under Grant will be driven from before Vicksburg.

7 Mo. 2nd. Waked with as bad a headache as if the Rebels were here. Exerted myself to arrange a bouquet and eat my breakfast, when I found mother intended to go to Tulpehocken St. and I mustered strength to go with her. We found them in their sitting room busy sewing; the girls are preparing to evacuate and fall back upon Boston if Meade should be defeated. His whole force is now come on to Gettysburg or near it. Colonel Wister is wounded and taken prisoner.

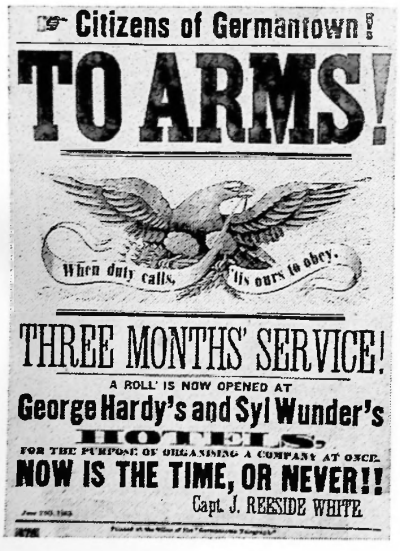
7 Mo. 3rd. Tonight there are reports, that we are not defeated to say the least.

7 Mo. 4th. Sad day for our national anniversary, indeed the city authorities have countermanded the extensive preparations for a public demonstration. Boys have been firing crackers, and a cannon at the corner of Greene St. all day; and this evening we saw a few Roman candles but nothing what we usually have on the night of the 4th of July. This afternoon J. B. G. (John Biddle Garrett) came to tea, and read

us from an "Extra" this short address from our President, which is quite cheering.—"The President announced to the country that news from the Army of the Potomac, up to 10 P. M. of the 3rd is such as to cover the army with highest honor, to permit a great success to the cause of the Union, and to claim the condolence of all for the many gallant fallen; and that for this he especially desires, that, on this day, He whose will, not ours, should ever be done, be everywhere remembered and reverenced with the greatest profoundest gratitude. Signed Abraham Lincoln.

As the proclamation hints, Gen. Meade in his official dispatch states our loss to have been heavy yet victory he considers on the Northern side. We shall feel very anxious till something more decisive is attained, but there is now cause to hope we may be preserved from an attack either here or at Harrisburg, of any importance.

7 Mo. 5th. This has been a much less gloomy day to many than that first day of the week. The papers this afternoon have the entire surroundings of Lee and his forces by Meade, and their having been taken prisoners to the number of 20,000. Yet we cannot so soon realize the fact of Phila. being "out of danger,"


Citizens of Germantown!

TO ARMS!

When duty calls, 'tis ours to obey.

THREE MONTHS' SERVICE!

A ROLL IS NOW OPENED AT

George Hardy's and Syl Wunder's

HOTELS,

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ORGANIZING A COMPANY AT ONCE.

NOW IS THE TIME, OR NEVER!!

Capt. J. REESIDE WHITE

**Poster dated June 29, 1863, recruiting Citizens of Germantown. It was printed by the Germantown Telegraph Printing Co.**

indeed I don't want to for a while, it would be such a cruel disappointment if it should prove an exaggerated report or without foundation. Aunt D. went this evening to spend the night with Cousin Abby. How it throws all feeling of exultation aside to reflect on the means by which our troops have triumphed such fearful loss of life most who have gone from here are or were in the Army of the Potomac—public gain and glory will be far from the hearts of many sad and anxious households tonight.

7 Mo. 6th. This morning Aunt Margaret (Mrs. James E. Rhoads) called to take me over to Oakbourne with her, uncle has gone to offer his services as surgeon, in the hospital at Harrisburg or even on the battlefield. We went out in the garden and picked some raspberries which we put up for winter.

7 Mo. 7th. Cousin H. C. W. just stopped to tell us of a "glorious victory" the unconditional surrender of Vicksburg to Gen. Grant on the 88th, anniversary of our Independence." They told me that the State House and all the bells in the city rang a joyful peal in celebration or announcement of the event, flags are waving tonight from public and private buildings and every-ones face is brighter than has been seen for the past two weeks. Good news as well as bad flies rapidly now. Grant's official telegram arrived at Washington, after one o'clock yesterday noon, and before ten, the bells were proclaiming it to the city.

7 Mo. 8th. Uncle William and Cousin M. are to take tea here this evening, they are staying at Cousin Horatio's. Uncle James found Surgeon General Hammond, had a sufficient corps under him for the emergency and so went to New Hope for the day.

7 Mo. 9th. After Meeting Aunt Lizzie started for New Hope and Uncle James the second time for Harrisburg. He, uncle, has just received a letter from one of the Surgeons there urging him to come to his aid. It rained perseveringly this afternoon and frustrated our plans for paying some calls.

7 Mo. 10th. Sewed all day till just before tea when I went up to see Harry (one of the Aertsen daughters)—they are all busy making clothes, sheets, slings, etc. for the hospital at Gettysburg and Harrisburg.

7 Mo. 12th. Sat. down soon after breakfast to "stitch, stitch, stitch, and was enlivened by a call from Harry and a promise of a visit from her tonight.

7 Mo. 23rd. Yesterday I seemed to live a month in 22 hrs. As soon as we reached town I went to Uncle Thomas'; Kate just handed me the *Press* and told me the 22 ward had been drafted. With a beating heart I ran over the names fearing I should see Uncle James' name. Not seeing that I could take time in the rest.

To my great sorrow I saw many I knew, Philip Garrett, G. B. Wood, Samuel Morris, Joel Cadbury, James Whital, two of the Hackers, and Josiah Jones, among Friends, the rest will of course, some go and some pay the required three hundred dollars, but what will become of our Friends. I am very very sorry for Philip, he will I know be much distressed, being of such a sensitive nature and having all along taken such a hopeless view of the matter. One thing is certain he will not wrong his conscience to gain save his life. I fully believe he will be helped and strength given him to hold fast unto the end. A committee of the Meeting for Sufferings are to go to Washington on Sixth day to intercede with the President and Secretary of War. We mother and I go to Muncy on Second day with Hy. Kate and B. N. Beesby.

7 Mo. 24th. Sewing vigorously in the morning, prepared some packages for Muncy, and waited on mother in the afternoon. In the evening took a moonlight ride round School House Lane, and the Wissahickon with J. B. Wood, which I enjoyed very

much, such a nice finish to a rather tiresome day.

7 Mo. 25th. Sent off our trunk by Express, wrote to Hy. Called at Aertsen's brought Harry down to tea, Uncle Charley and Aunt Rebecca were there also. H. and I sat on the porch and talked for the next month's silence. I walked up to Harvey Street with her in somewhat of a "gale." P. C. G. came in the evening and he and Uncle had a long serious conversation about the draft. What will be done with the Non-combatants we know not, and I cannot bear to think of what they may have to suffer.

7 Mo. 26th. Arranged the last bouquet before going to Muncy. Cousin Hill and I came into Uncle Thomas's in the 9.45 train, found the cars crowded, and were therefore behind time so that it was nearly eleven when we reached 817.

7 Mo. 27th. Such a night. There was not one of us had any refreshing sleep the whole night, what a dead calm, a furnace heat and an efficient corps of muskitoes we found sleep in vain. Why a heavy shower that fell did not cool the air we didn't know, so got up the theory that it rained hot water. About five we got up and dressed went down stairs and commenced putting up our dinner, which we all felt to be a mere form, for as to ever again having any appetite it required a soaring flight of the imagination to dream of such a thing. After sundry running for the last things and a walk up to thirteenth and Callowhill where we met mother and Uncle C. we took seats J. Hilles had kindly reserved for us in the Lebanon Valley car. M. Elliott, Wister and F. Stokes were there to witness our departure. We had a pretty lively time until we neared Harrisburg when the effect on Kate and me of a large dinner of milk, biscuit, olives, dried beef, eggs, pickles, preserved ginger, cakes and apricots made itself apparent, by giving us direful headaches. It also poured just as we changed cars which had to be accomplished by a walk through hundreds of soldiers, jostling against and rendering any progress impossible, pro tem. We found to our disgust that the N. Central cars had not come from the South yet, so we waited two hours and a half in the Cumberland Valley depot. We had time to make a few observations on the place which upon comparing we found to agree very nearly, vis; that in Harrisburg it is muddy in the extreme, that the number of soldiers is only equalled by the number of flies; and the absence of seats is in inverse proportion to cleanliness, and to the piles of worse than suspicious looking bedding, and old cavalry equipments, which are to be found there. As soon as the train came in there was an increase of bustle and confusion, emerging from which we arranged ourselves in the car, hoping at last to be moving onward. But the fresh detention which arose from the number of long boxes, one apparently containing two coffins; and wounded soldiers, one on a stretcher, make us feel heartsick. The cars were at last just moving when there was a great outcry and commotion at the rear of the train, looking out I saw a crowd of soldiers and officers had just captured a deserter, he was attempting to escape North, and in making a resistance the man was bayonetted in the neck. We watched the unfortunate man as he was marched with an armed guard till he disappeared in the crowd. Without anything worthy of note in this dignified history of a day we reached Muncy. There were Aunt R. and Nannie waiting for us, and Conrad for our luggage, we rode to Wolfrun in the bright moonlight and received the usual warm affectionate welcome and embrace from each one as we passed into the house.

7 No. 29th. I forgot to mention on First day that Uncle Thomas and the rest of the committee returned from Washington Seventh Day night. They had an interview with the President and Secretary Seward who at their petition wrote a release for those Friends taken as conscripts with the Rebels to Gettysburg and with them taken prisoners of war and sent to Fort Delaware. They also gave them to understand that no Friend should suffer the extreme punishment for deserters, on account of Peace Principles. Official dispatches from Col. Shackleford state that he has captured Guerilla John Morgan and staff with 950 men . . . Morgan and his officers are sent to Castle Thunder till all our men are released from Libby Prison at Richmond. Today's paper contains Jeff Davis last proclaimation calling all men to be drafted between 18 and 45. This, and the critical condition of Charleston look more and more encouraging to us who so sincerely wish the triumph of the Union and still more an end to this dreadful war.

8 Mo. 3rd. Went down to Muncy right after breakfast, and there received a letter from Aunt Deborah bringing sad, though not unlooked for news that Uncle Jonathan is drafted. Poor dear Uncle he will be tried very closely for conscience' sake no doubt, and auntie will feel for him and for herself, if left alone, very keenly. If going there would com-

*(Continued on page 26)*



**The home of Dr. Witt, which was at the S.E. corner of High Street and Germantown Ave., was at one time occupied by Margaret H. Morris, the first woman elected member of the Academy of Natural Sciences**

# The Langstroth Bee Garden of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

By Professor J. R. Schramm

*Director of the Arboretum*

THE Langstroth Bee Garden at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania in Chestnut Hill was dedicated Oct. 20, 1951. It marks the centenary of Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth's basic discoveries in 1851 in Philadelphia which revolutionized the art of beekeeping throughout the civilized world. By means mainly of the trees and shrubs it already contains or will contain, together with suitable explanatory devices to be added, the garden will seek to inform the visiting public, including beekeepers, school, college and university classes, concerning the fundamentally important interrelations of plants and honey bees.

Prized as is the honey made by bees, it is vastly surpassed in value and importance by their role as pollenizers. The beauty of many flowers so strongly appeals to our aesthetic sense that we sometimes forget that they are first and foremost of importance to the plants that produce them. Basically, flowers are intricate structures concerned with sexual reproduction. The most essential parts are stamens and pistils, the two sometimes in separate flowers on the same plant or on separate plants, but more often in the same flower. To initiate the complicated processes which finally result in fertilization and subsequent seed and fruit development, pollen produced in the anthers of stamens must be transferred to the receptive stigma of the pistil. This is pollination. In many plants such as our cereal grains (corn, wheat, oats, rice, etc.), oaks, poplars, walnuts, pines, etc., this is accomplished by wind, the pollen being dry, dusty, and very abundant. But in the vast majority of plants the transfer is effected by animals, nearly always by insects lured to the flowers by color or fragrance or both and rewarded by nectar and/or pollen. (In such plants the pollen is usually less abundant and more or less sticky.) And among these insects, honey bees have become the most important. Thus the common bee, though the source of all commercial honey, has a vastly greater significance in our economy as pollenizers of plants of the orchard, field, forest and garden.



**A glimpse in the Bee Garden**

Now bees have their own motives in visiting flowers. They are after food for themselves and their young—nectar or pollen or both. A vigorous colony requires about 75 pounds of pollen a season, largely to feed the young brood. The latter, like other growing animals, requires much protein, and this the pollen provides in abundance. The surplus nectar is processed and stored as honey for future use (of the bees). In the process of foraging in blossoms, the bees fortuitously bring about pollination. Plundering a flower, pollen grains adhere to the bee's hairy body. Proceeding to another flower of the same species, some of this adhering pollen is accidentally deposited on the stigma, thus effecting pollination.

Now it so happens that numerous plants, including many varieties of our valuable cultivated crops, are self-sterile or self-unfruitful. This means that successful pollination occurs only when pollen from some other variety is deposited on the stigma. This is true of most varieties of apple (Delicious, Winesap, Northern Spy, etc.) and pear (Bartlett, Seckel, Anjou, etc.), all varieties of sweet cherry, some plums (Burbank, Abundance, etc.) and apricots, and many more. As learned by costly experience, orchards planted wholly to one of these self-sterile varieties and out of beerange of another variety are failures. Close interplanting with other compatible varieties is now routine practice among orchardists so bees can effect successful cross pollination.

A variant of the varietal self-sterility just discussed in fruits exists in numerous other plants, notably in many of our most valuable legume forage plants like alfalfa, white clover, sweet clover, red clover, alsike clover, crimson clover, etc. Here, even when pollination from another variety is not essential, it must at least be from another plant of the same variety, as pollen from the same flower or from another flower on the same plant is not effective. So here also cross pollination is indispensable for good seed yields; and for this we are completely dependent on bees.

Modern agriculture has greatly reduced native pollinating insects, especially wild bees. These nest



**Young Sourwood or Sorrel-Tree**

in or near the ground. Disappearance of rail fences and other wide fence rows, clean cultivation, burning, irrigation, etc., have destroyed or drastically reduced the nesting sites of these highly beneficial insects. And planting large acreages to single crops has deprived them of the varied available plants necessary to provide them with adequate nectar and pollen sources throughout the active season. The increasing use of herbicides has a similar effect. The overall result has been an alarming pollination deficiency in many important crops requiring insect visits, with consequent drastic reductions in yields, notably in legume forage crops.

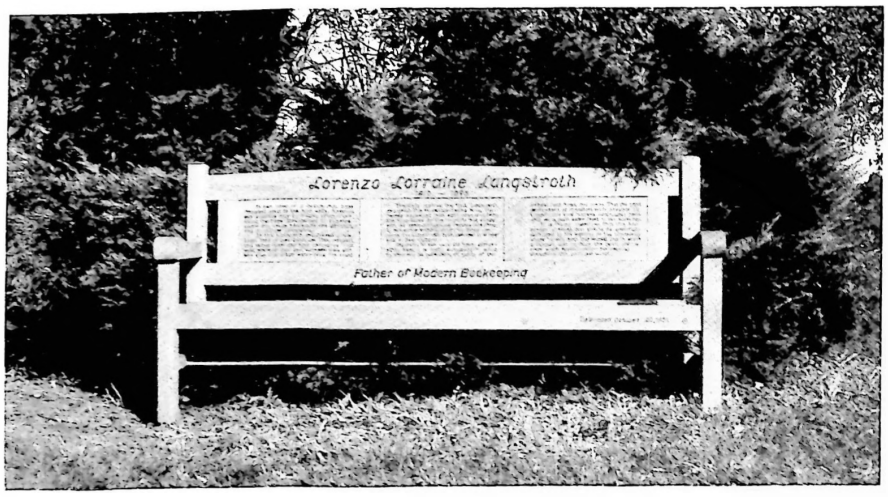
These tendencies in our rural economy are not likely soon to be reversed. Fortunately, however, populations of the honey bee, now our most valuable pollinating insect, can be increased at will. This is because it is the one pollinating insect man can culture and manage successfully on a large scale, thanks in large measure to the discoveries of Langstroth a century ago in Philadelphia. It is the honey bee that is saving the day for many of our most valuable crops which are not wind pollinated. It follows that a thriving bee-keeping industry is fundamental to the welfare of much of our agriculture and horticulture.

It is now common practice to place bee colonies, increasingly on a rental basis, in apple, pear, plum, cherry, citrus and other fruit orchards to insure pollination. Not so well known is the fact that the same practice is proving very profitable for avocados, melons, etc., for blueberry, cranberry, and other berry culture, and in many other cultivated crops, including some grown in greenhouses, like cucumbers. And in field crops such as alfalfa and other clovers, for instance, similar controlled pollination by moving in bee colonies in sufficient number and properly distributed is dramatically raising seed yields which have been declining alarmingly in recent years. Indeed, the importance of honey bees in controlled pollination is such that Dr. James I. Hambleton, Chief of the Division of Bee Culture of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and a speaker at the dedication of the Bee Garden, states that: "No one can question that we are rapidly approaching the time when honey production as the end product of keeping bees will be considered secondary. The accumulation of the effects of agricultural practices, together with possible future trends in the development of our agriculture, leaves little room to doubt that honey bees will play an increasingly important part in our agricultural economy. This development seems destined to take place irrespective of what happens to the production of honey. The professional beekeeper in the future will be an expert in the use of bees in pollination. The production of honey to him will be a means of maintaining his colonies for use as pollinating agents."

In all this vital pollinating business, the Bee Garden will strive so far as practicable to orient and inform the visiting public. At the same time it will not neglect the importance of and widespread interest in honey itself. Increasingly it will assemble a museum of living shrubs and trees, both native and exotic, of importance directly or indirectly in honey production. The honeys produced from linden, sourwood, tupelo, black locust, persimmon, and other trees have long been justly famous; the garden contains small specimens of these favorites. And the dependable and beautiful tulip tree, single flowers of which produce nearly a teaspoonful of nectar, will be represented. Among shrubs such sources of delicious honey as blueberries and pepperbush are present. Even poison ivy is admitted; it secretes much nectar and yields a non-poisonous honey. And not neglected are plants producing no nectar but an abundance of early pollen, such as poplars, elms, hickories, oaks, alders, etc. Ample stores of this high-protein food are indispensable for brood rearing, without which colonies would not have the vigorous populations of worker bees to harvest the heavy nectar flows from other plants flowering later.

And to round out the educational program of the Garden, there are bees, several hives of them, furnished by and presided over by the Curator of the Garden, Mr. Fred Schwoebel, well-known Philadelphia bee-keeper and resident of Germantown.

Much as is known about the interrelations of bees and plants, a vast amount remains to be learned. This is the province of research, the other objective of the Garden. We may be sure that any sound knowledge gained will find its applications. And the more fundamental the added knowledge, the more valuable it will prove to be. Nowhere is this more strikingly demonstrated than in the studies of bee behavior by Langstroth. Their application to hive design has made possible the successful massive use of bees in solving some of our most fundamental modern problems of agriculture and horticulture.




Langstroth Memorial Bench

# Philadelphia's Pioneer in Beekeeping

By Fred W. Schwoebel

*Curator of the Langstroth Bee Garden of the Morris Arboretum at Chestnut Hill*

A RECENT article on beekeeping in India compares present methods with those in vogue in "the pre-Langstroth period" and mentions the name of Langstroth three times in as many pages. These references are to the Rev. Lorenzo L. Langstroth who, by his discoveries and the invention of the movable frame bee hive, revolutionized beekeeping practices in all parts of the world.

This man was a native Philadelphian and he made his experiments and discoveries here. The hive he invented is now used wherever modern beekeeping is practiced and his book on beekeeping has been translated into many languages; yet he has remained practically unknown in his native city. On October 20, 1951 the Langstroth Bee Garden was dedicated to his memory at the Morris Arboretum in Chestnut Hill, marking the centenary of his revolutionary invention.

Langstroth was born at 106 South Front Street on Christmas Day, 1810, the second of eight children. He was of mixed English, French and German descent. Not much is recorded about his childhood, but his own story shows where his interest lay even that early in life. He reports that he was whipped for wearing holes in his "knees" from being down on the gravel walk watching the activities of ants; and that for several years he went to Center Square (now City Hall Square) to obtain specimens and to study the transformations of locusts. In his own word, "I was not over twelve years of age when I made most of my observations upon these locusts; but when I returned to Philadelphia in the fortieth year of my age, it being locust year, I collected quite a number of larvae from the trees in Independence Square, and sat up with my daughter and some of her school companions until after midnight to show them the curious changes."

After attending the preparatory school of the University of Pennsylvania, he went to Yale, from which he was graduated in 1831; and in the fall of that year entered the Yale Divinity School. In 1834 he was made tutor in mathematics to the freshman class at Yale and continued in this position for two years, after which he accepted an appointment as pastor of the South Church, Andover, Mass.

The following years record a series of appointments to and resignations from pastorates and administrative positions in schools. These took him from Andover to Greenfield, Mass.; Philadelphia; and again Greenfield; Oxford, Ohio, and then Dayton, Ohio, where he died in 1895.

In 1848 Langstroth returned to Philadelphia to operate a girls' school. He settled in a house at Schuylkill Seventh and Chestnut Streets, now Sixteenth and Chestnut. At that time Philadelphia streets were numbered east from the Schuylkill, as well as west from the Delaware to Broad. Schuylkill Seventh became Sixteenth in 1853. Here he installed several hives of bees in the attic and veranda of an upper story of his home. He had kept bees for several years previous to this and had used observation hives of glass to make his studies. The following year he moved his hives to "the village of West Philadelphia", on land now occupied by the University of Pennsylvania, and continued to experiment with various types of hives, some of them of his own design. It appears that at that time a number of different "patent" hives were in use, representing the ideas of French, German and American beemen.

In 1851 he had nearly completed his experiments with a bar hive, which he planned to patent. In making these hives, probably in order to avoid crushing the bees—for he loved them—he left a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch space between the cover and the bars. Months later he noted that this space was not utilized by the bees for building comb, nor was it filled with proplis, or "bee glue", which the bees use to seal small cracks and crevices in the hive. In this way he accidentally discovered the "bee space", or hive corridor, a space which the bees always respect and leave free. However, the practical application of this in the construc-

tion of the bee hive did not dawn on him until too late in the season for use that year.

On October 30, 1851, while returning across the Schuylkill from his apiary, and pondering, as he says, "how I could get rid of the disagreeable necessity of cutting the attachments of the combs from the walls of the hives . . . the idea of using the bee space came into my mind and in a moment, the suspended movable frames, kept at suitable distances from each other and the case containing them, came into being . . . I could scarcely refrain from shouting out my 'Eureka' in the open streets." Thus was the invention of the modern hive brought about.

Langstroth was a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia and it was during this same year that he called on Dr. Joseph Leidy of that institution, for assistance in his study of "The Impregnation of the Eggs of the Queen Bee" (Proceedings, Academy of Natural Sciences, Vol. 6). His original paper by that title is still in the Academy library. Written in a large, flowing hand, it confirmed what early investigators (one French, one German) had found but were unable to prove. In his book he says, "I consider myself peculiarly fortunate in having enjoyed the benefit of the labors of a naturalist so celebrated as Dr. Leidy for microscopic dissections. . . . No man in this country or Europe was more competent to make the investigations I desired."

In the fall of 1852, Langstroth again went to Greenfield, Mass., to live and there wrote his book, "Langstroth on the Hive and the Honey Bee," completing it that same winter. His wife had remained in Philadelphia, where she continued to teach, and Langstroth sent her his manuscript a few pages at a time for correction and preparation for the printer. It was published in March, 1853 by Hopkins, Bridgman & Company, Northampton, Mass. Several later editions were published by J. B. Lippincott Company, in Philadelphia.

"Langstroth on the Honey Bee" has been called a classic and the "beekeeper's bible". It has been translated into a number of languages, the more recent being Spanish in 1924, Italian in 1928, and Polish in 1930. Florence Naile, in her excellent "Life of Langstroth," published by the Cornell University Press, says, "his was the first soundly scientific and yet simple book on the physiology and habits of the honey bee and the principles of its culture that had appeared in the United States. Its practical instructions were the fullest and the best yet assembled and offered to beekeepers."

It is a curious book. Describing and instructing in beekeeping procedures, many of which were revolutionary then but are accepted practices now, he repeatedly diverges to indulge in sermonly moralizing or to give sales talks on the merits of his new hive. He presents a formidable list of fifty-four "Requisites of an Improved Hive" in a chapter under that heading and claims to have met all of them, saying, "I have endeavored to adapt my hive to the actual wants and habits of the bee, and to remedy the many difficulties with which I have found its actual culture to be beset." Beekeepers the world over agree that he was most successful.

A lively interest in honey plants is shown and he describes his attempt to obtain a hybrid cross between the red and white clover "in order to get something with the rich honey-producing properties of the red, and yet with a short blossom into which the honey bee might insert its probosis." Of the tulip tree, which must have been plentiful along the Schuylkill in his day, he says, "The Tulip Tree, Liriodendron, is probably one of the greatest honey-producing trees in the world" and again "our villages would be much more attractive if, instead of being filled as they are, almost exclusively with maples and elms, they were adorned with a greater variety of our native trees."

An interesting reference is made to the dances which scout bees perform on returning to the hive. In this he anticipates the recent discoveries of von Frisch. Langstroth says, "When the bee returns with pollen, she often makes a singular dancing or vibratory motion which attracts the attention of the other bees." Karl von Frisch, of Munich, has made these dances the subject of most exhausting study and experiment. The result of these have been made available in English for the first time in 1951 in "Bees, Their Vision, Chemical Senses and Language," Cornell University Press. He has found that by their means, bees are able to communicate to their hive mates the fact that new sources of food are available. Also, that by the form of the dance, its tempo, and direction in relation to the position of the sun, they are able to indicate the intensity of the honey flow and its direction and distance from the hive.

A patent on his hive was granted on October 5, 1852. He then engaged in the sale of his hive and patent rights. Since anyone slightly skilled in carpentry could make it, many infringed his rights. Langstroth was not suited for business either by temperament or training and he was not commercially successful. He was further handicapped by what he called "head trouble" which often incapacitated him for weeks at a time. This distressing ailment had started in his twenties and appears to have grown worse after he left Philadelphia. It is doubtful if he ever enjoyed an entirely comforable day during the latter half of his life.

Basically, the hive Langstroth invented is the hive used wherever modern beekeeping is practiced. It consists of an outer hive body usually containing ten frames in which the combs are built by the bees. These are so constructed that an extension of the top bar rests on rabbets on each side of the hive wall and touches nowhere else; a bee space of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch separating the frame from the hive walls and top; a similar space—but wider— is left at the bottom. This same bee space also separates the combs from each other.

In actual practice several hive bodies are used, the lower one called the "brood chamber" and the upper ones "supers" in which the surplus honey is stored. These again are separated from each other by the ⅜ inch space.

This arrangement enables the beekeeper to expand or contact the hive and to remove the combs individually without injuring them or the bees. They can be manipulated in a great number of ways as dictated by the operator's method of beekeeping, and make the keeping of bees a joy for the hobbyist and experimenter. Because of its simplicity, this hive also makes large-scale beekeeping more profitable and is the basis of commercial beekeeping today.

*The author and editor acknowledges credit to "Frontiers" of June 1951*

Langstroth is unknown today except to beekeepers, to whom he is known as "The Father of American Beekeeping." However, among them, his fame is not limited to his country, but extends over the entire globe.

With the dedication of the Langstroth Bee Garden at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania it is hoped that this Philadelphian, whom the garden commemorates, may gain some of the recognition he so richly deserves, and take his proper place among the many illustrious persons who have added to man's knowledge and well-being while living and working in this, his native city.

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# The Langstroths in Germantown

By Edward W. Hocker
*From the Norristown Times Herald*

THOMAS LANGSTROTH, grandfather of Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth, came to Pennsylvania from England in 1767 at the age of twenty-one. He was a tanner by trade but here he took up the operation of paper mills. After the Revolution he leased the paper mill at the Falls of the Schuylkill which was formally owned by Christopher Sower, the Germantown printer whose property had been confiscated at the time of the war.

Through Sower it seems that Langstroth was drawn to the Church of the Brethren (Dunkers) in Germantown where Sower was bishop, Langstroth and his wife were baptized there. Though this was a German Church some English Baptists joined it, since the Brethren were Baptists and there was no English Church near by.

In 1790 the Langstroths removed to the vicinity of the present Bryn Athyn in Lower Moreland Township. Here he built a paper mill on Pennypack Creek, which after his death was operated by his sons, Thomas and John George.

Fire destroyed the mill one night in March 1809. Thereupon the two brothers dissolved partnership and Thomas rebuilt the mill, while John George made his home in Philadelphia. The following year on Christmas Day he became the father of a son who was named Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth.

In the family of the first Thomas Langstroth there were 15 children, several of whom gained distinction. One son had the strange name of Piscator. Perhaps he was born under the Zodiacal sign of Pisces. He made his home in Germantown and amassed wealth from a process he invented of bleaching beeswax. Possibly it was through this uncle Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth became interested in bees. However, the nephew made no monetary profit through dabbling with bees. His widow said later that he had never received any money for his invention of the hive.

Candles, which constituted the ordinary mode of illumination were usually made of tallow. Wealthy families preferred candles of beeswax, and similar candles were used in Catholic Churches. The whiter the candles the higher the price they commanded.

Piscator Langstroth made the whitest candles, and he kept his bleaching process secret so that he held a monopoly. For many years, it was said he supplied candles for most of the churches in Mexico.

A daughter of the Langstroth family, Hannah J., became the wife of Frances A. Drexel, a leading banker in Philadelphia. The Drexels had two children. One of them, Katherine, in 1891 founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament to educate Indians and Negroes. Their mother house is at Cornwells, on the Delaware, in Bucks County. There Mother Katherine still lives at the age of 92.

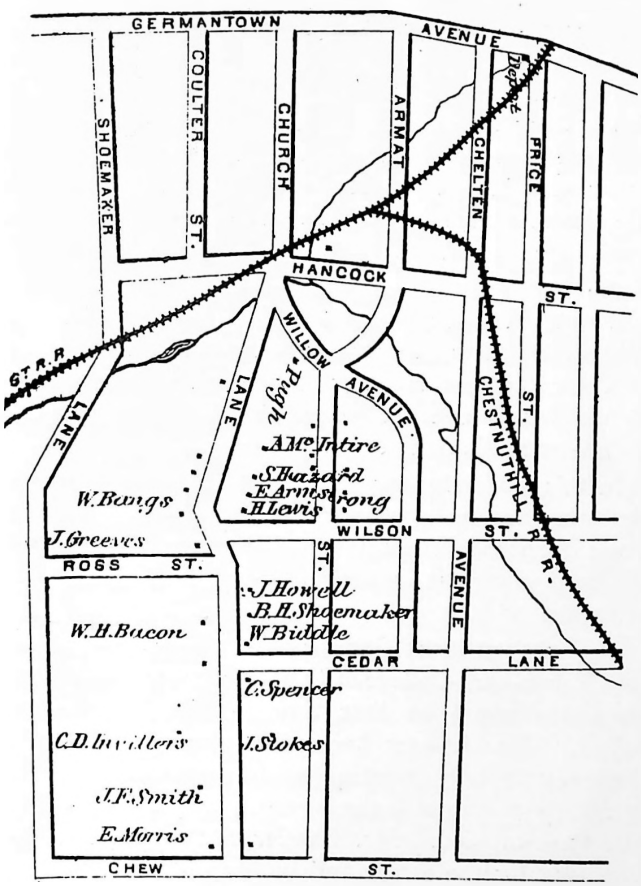


**A typical bridge over the Wissahickon**

# The Paving of Church Lane or Mill Street

**Compiled by Benjamin H. Shoemaker III**

Editor's note: A map of Germantown in 1759 indicates Church Lane as being known as Mill Street. Church Lane and School Lane intersecting Germantown Ave. at Market Square were the main cross streets of Germantown until 1850. Soon after 1850, Chelten Ave. was cut through. The following newspaper clippings were taken from the *Germantown Telegraph* Dec. 9, 1891 and an issue in 1892.




## The condition of Mill Street
## How Macadam Roads Have Been Slighted—Hope for Better Things

Mill street before the Revolutionary war was the main thoroughfare between Germantown and Branchtown on Old York road. It continued as a country road until about forty years ago, when a turnpike company was incorporated and a stone road constructed; but the income not being sufficient to keep the road in repair, it was abandoned about 1870.

Two years later a majority of property owners between Germantown Ave. and Chew street petitioned Councils asking to have the road macadamized. The petition was favorably considered and granted. Proposals were advertised for, and the contract was awarded. The work was done and the owners of property along the line paid their bills in 1873. Since that time nothing has been done in the way of repairs, excepting during the last year of Chief Estabrook's term of office. He resurfaced a few hundred feet lying north from the Main Street.

On the other hand much has been done to destroy the road by digging trenches for water and gas pipes and for sewers. The last hitch at that kind of work was last spring, and the ridge of rough stones then left in the centre of the road is only now being worn down.

We are hopeful however that something better will come soon, as our present Director of Public Works, asks for more money for repairs of such roads, and if granted, he will see that the money is properly and judiciously expended and that this shameful condition of many roads in the outlying districts shall not continue. —B.H.S.

### Repaving Mill Street

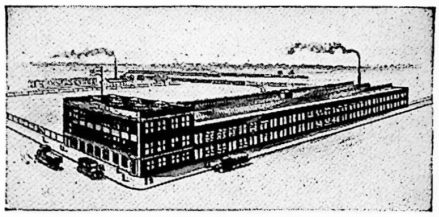
It will be well remembered by the readers of the *Telegraph* that not long since Mr. Benjamin H. Shoemaker appeared before the Highway Committee to plead for the reconstruction of Mill Street, and that after a hard fought battle for it in the Highway Committee, extending over an hour, an item of $10,000 was recommended to the Finance Committee for the purpose.

It was quietly given out that this action would be reversed when the matter came before the Finance Committee for consideration, but the item was finally passed last Thursday. It is a case for congratulation * * * (for those) who fought bravely for it and for the whole community for whom this avenue is a leading highway of public travel.


The First Mill at the Mouth of Wissahickon Creek
1689

page twenty one

# WICACO . . .



FEW concerns have such distinction as to be linked either through name or organization with the early history of our country. So the chronicling of history with which we are linked evidences the spirit of honestly inspired effort.

In 1626, King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden, granted a charter to the first West India Company, arranging a colony in America where religious and political freedom should be enjoyed. In 1638, after the King's death, the first party of emigrants were sent out in the "Griffin" and "Key of Colmar". They settled on the banks of the Delaware River. Most of them made their homes in Wicaco, now a part of Philadelphia, and others at a place which they named Fort Christina, now Wilmington, Delaware.

Wicaco was an Indian Village, called on Linstrom's map, Wichqua Coingh, a tract of land of about eight hundred acres, fronting on the Delaware and commencing at Moyamensingkill, now known as Hollanders Creek, extending into the woods about six hundred rods. It extended, it is believed, beyond the present line of South Street and Westward as far as Seventeenth and Eighteenth Street, about Longland near South Street and thence in a diagonal line to Hollanders Creek. Wicaco is an abbreviation of Wichacomoca, "a dwelling place," from Wichqua, "a house".*

Wicaco Block-House built for defense against the Indians stood near the Delaware River, it is believed, about the site afterward occupied by the Swedish Church, Gloria Dei, now south of Christian Street on the west side of Swanson Street. The building was dedicated July 2, 1700.

The present company was formed in 1868, by Charles Parham, who, before the Civil War was a builder and inventor of Sewing Machines, on which he held some very valuable patents. The plant was then located at Fourth and Cherry Streets and was known as the Wicaco Screw Company. The name Wicaco was no doubt adopted because Mr. Parham dwelt within his labors.

During the Civil War, Mr. Parham closed his factory, organized a regiment of volunteers and with his own funds, clothed them to a degree of comfort; his purchases were made through Jacob Reed and Sons, who were then on Dock Street. The Regiment leaving for the war under the command of Colonel Murphy, and Mr. Parham, who was commissioned a Lieutenant Colonel.

After the war, Mr. Parham returned to Philadelphia, started in business again under the name of the Wicaco Screw and Machine Works, then located at 712 Cherry Street and there manufactured special machine screws, machine parts and built the first screw machine on the American market, known as the Parham Screw Machine. He started to build these machines in 1870, making over six hundred of them.

During the Electrical Exhibit in 1872, which was held about where the Pennsylvania Railroad Station, at West Philadelphia, now stands, one of these machines was in continual operation, causing a great deal of attraction and comment.

In this modern plant of ours we have all the conveniences and comforts for our employees. No expense is spared in obtaining executives who are intelligent, proficient in their lines and extremely dependable.

Our past president Charles W. Lawser was graduated from Girard College in 1888, receiving the highest honors conferred at that time in the Mechanical School. Mr. Lawser became connected with the Company in 1900, starting as superintendent while Mr. Parham was still the owner. In January 1904, Mr. Parham died. Mr. Lawser then operated the Company for the estate and in March 1905, formed a partnership with Mr. Parham's widow, which lasted until 1907. He then bought out the Parham interests and in June 1915, incorporated the Company under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in January of 1916, the Company moved into larger quarters in the Lawser Building, at Seventh and Wood Streets. Mr. Lawser was active in the business up until the day he died—December 17, 1947. His mechanical genius and genial personality reflects itself in our many attainments.

His son, Charles W. Lawser, Jr., having served twenty-five years with the Company, assumed the position as President at his father's death, and is still to this day carrying on the business in the same

(*Continued on page 29*)

*See Jackson's Year Book—1920-1921.

# To Pennsylvania With William Penn

*(Second Part of An Article)*

By Edward W. Hocker

### Early Activity in the Society of Friends

A suggestion of the brevity of Townsend's stay in Chester is found in the first mention of his name in the minutes of Abington Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends. In the first year of the existence of Pennsylvania, the Friends held meetings in private homes in Cheltenham and Abington Townships and in the area eastward toward Frankford. A monthly meeting, transacting business matters and keeping the records of attending families, was organized in 1683. It included the local meetings of this territory northwest of the present Philadelphia and also the Germantown meeting and meetings in the northern end of what is now Philadelphia. Germantown Meeting comprised most of the first settlers of Germantown, and, like the rural meetings, its assemblages for worship were held in homes of members. Living on the borders of Germantown, Townsend became a member of Germantown Meeting, and thus was within the jurisdiction of the monthly meeting that was organized 3d of 7 mo., 1683, and later adopted the name of Abington Monthly Meeting.

The minutes of Abington Monthly Meeting record that at a meeting held 4th of 12 mo., 1683, at the house of Sarah Seary, near Frankford, Thomas Fairman and Richard Townsend were appointed to procure a book for registering births and burials. Had he been living in Chester at that time he would not have participated in activities of Abington Monthly Meeting. At the next monthly meeting, 3d of 1 mo., 1683 (O. S.), Richard Townsend handed over the book that was wanted.

Richard Townsend made an early purchase of real estate in Frankford. A deed is on record, dated 20 of 5 mo., 1684, whereby Thomas Fairman, of Shackamaxon, sold ten acres within the village of Frankford to Richard Townsend for £5, 10 s, together with the yearly payment of "one pullet or hen chick to be at least three months old."

Townsend's Testimony of 1727 suggests that he lived for a time in one of the "cave houses" that the first settlers built in Philadelphia on the banks of the Delaware. Mentioning the construction of a "boarded meeting house," he wrote: "After our meetings were over, we assisted each other in building little houses for our shelter." Being a carpenter, Townsend would have been of great help in this work.

Townsend frequently represented the monthly meeting in the quarterly meeting. The first such record is for the quarterly meeting of 2d of 7 mo., 1684, when he was listed as one of six "Tackony friends" present.

### Primitive Conditions on the Farm

In the 1727 Testimony Townsend wrote thus of his earliest years on the farm:

"About the time in which Germantown was laid out I settled upon my tract of land which I had purchased of the Proprietor in England, about a mile from thence; where I set up a house and a corn mill, which was very useful to the country for several miles round."

There being few horses on the farms, patrons carried their grain to the mill on their backs, though one man had a "trained bull" to transport the burden.

Deer were plentiful. One day while he was mowing grass, Townsend related, "a young deer came and looked on me while I was mowing." Becoming frightened, the deer ran against a tree and was stunned. Townsend then carried it home, where it was butchered," to the great benefit of the family." (Watson, II, 512.)

A flood in the creek caused much damage to the mill in 1701, and Friends' meetings took steps to help Townsend rebuild. Philadelphia and Abington Monthly Meetings both collected subscriptions of money for this purpose. Philadelphia Monthly Meeting's contribution totaled £40, 10 s.

Following an allusion to Townsend's mill in Dr. Albert S. Bolles' "Pennsylvania, Province and State," Vol. II, p. 236, the author thus describes the early mills:

"Grist mills were essentially the same in plan and structure, picturesque objects among the willows and alders. The oldest were built of logs with flaring gables and peaked cock-loft, from which dangled a rope like a hangman's for raising grain. On one side hung the ponderous wheel, dark and green with slimy moss, which rolled slowly around; or, when silent in winter, glistened with frozen pendants. How often has the sight of one of these old mills waked the lyre of the poet or formed the subject of some painter's art. And what curious places were they, with their quivering floors and cobweb-covered ceilings, inhabited by the solitary miller, whitened with meal dust. As the machinery was made of wood, the sound of the grinding was low, . . . giving forth a soft, cheery sound, so soothing to the ear, rasped by the harsh clangor of iron and steel."

Townsend's Testimony of 1727 does not describe his mill other than to term it a corn mill. "Corn"

then meant any grain. Nor does the Testimony reveal anything about Townsend's dwelling, but he did add that he "set up a barn."

### A Minister of the Friends

Soon after arriving in Pennsylvania Townsend "came forth in the ministry." He refused to join the schism which George Keith started among the Friends in the 1690's and which won numerous followers in Abington Monthly Meeting. Like most early ministers, he went on occasional tours to visit Friends' meetings elsewhere, receiving the authorization of his monthly meeting to do so. Most of his tours were made to Maryland, where his son-in-law, James Bartlett, and daughter Sarah lived, and once Virginia was included.

Abington Monthly Meeting minutes for 5 mo. 30, 1705, note that "Richard Townsend requested a certificate in order to visit friends in England." No report on this appears in subsequent minutes, nor does Townsend mention it in the extracts from his Testimony that have been printed. Seven months later, 12 mo. 25, 1705, the minutes record that Richard Townsend was appointed to attend quarterly meeting. Those were times of protracted voyages in sailing ships, but it was not impossible for him to have gone to England and visited his old home within seven months.

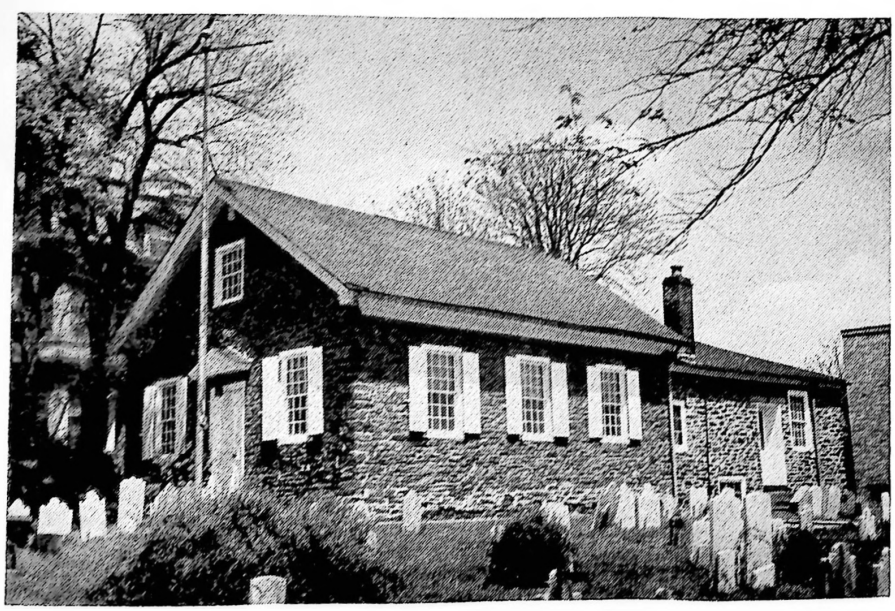
A biographical sketch of Townsend printed in *The Friend*, of Philadelphia, in the issues of 8 mo. 9 and 16, 1856, says he went to England in 1706 and labored there faithfully and diligently for about two years, returning home near the middle of 1708 and bringing a "certificate of unity from Friends at London with his company and religious services."

As to the visits to Maryland, the article in *The Friend* asserted "the Lord had helped him in his exercises and labors," and he had large meetings. In 1703, this writer added, Townsend made an "extensive visit through New England." A tour "to the South," in 1715, involved an absence of three months.

Germantown Friends' Meeting recognized Townsend's worth by making him one of a group of trustees that held title to the meeting's real estate. He served in this capacity from 1705 to 1711. Samuel Richardson, Thomas Potts, Samuel Cart and Richard Townsend were the trustees representing the meeting in the purchase of two lots, totaling fifty acres, on which the stone meeting house of 1705 was built. Prior to that time there had been a meeting house constructed of wood, erected on three perches of land, in the neighborhood of the present Germantown Avenue, above Coulter Street, which Jacob Shoemaker had given to the meeting in 1693. Possibly this was the community church the existence of which Pastorius mentioned in a letter of 1686 but the site of which has never been determined. The first meetings of Germantown Friends were held in homes of members, but it is likely that the later community church, which also was the court house, became the meeting place of the Friends. Jacob Shoemaker sold fifty acres round about the three perches he had given to the Friends, reserving the three perches from inclusion in the deed. The buyer, Heivert Papen, transferred this tract to the trustees of the Friends' Meeting. Most of the fifty-acre tract was subsequently sold, though part of it was eventually again acquired when it became necessary to expand the site of the meeting house. To pay the cost of the purchase from Papen, £60, and the construction of the new meeting house, subscriptions were received in the meetings of southeastern Pennsylvania.

Townsend was a contributor to the school which Francis Daniel Pastorius conducted in Germantown, beginning in 1701. A list of patrons for 1707–8, printed in Dr. Marion D. Learned's biography of Pastorius, page 183, includes the name of Townsend, but it is not in earlier lists of such patrons. It is likely his children were past school age in 1706, and Townsend, like others in the list, gave financial support to the school even though their families sent no students.

*(to be continued)*



**Mennonite Meeting House**
**built in 1770**
**Germantown Ave. ab. Herman St.**

# Rowell's Fifty Years in Germantown




ON JUNE 1, 1953, Rowell's will celebrate its 50th birthday. After these many years of progressively successful business, Rowell's holds a unique position in this modern era of retailing. There are two outstanding reasons for this. First, it is possibly the only store in the world that is operated not for stockholders or family interests—but for charity. The second reason is that it is one of the very few suburban stores of its size that can boast of being an independent entity in itself and not a branch of a center city store.

Both of these elements unite in making Rowell's definitely a part of the community of Germantown. First of all, the charities to which Rowell's donate are local. The Germantown Hospital, the Boy's Club, the Whosoever Gospel Mission, the Florence Crittenden Home are just a few.

The second reason, that of being a "neighborhood" store, causes Rowell's to gear its services and merchandise to suit the community. Its relationship with its customers is on a far more intimate basis than that of a branch store which is often operated from a distant larger store.

Those of you who remember Rowell's through the years know what monumental strides it has made. Many still recall the small store at 5615–17 Germantown Avenue. In 1940 Rowell's moved to Germantown and Chelten Avenues, diagonally across from its present location. In 1950 the store took possession of its present building, which architecturally is considered one of the most modern in the country.

The success that Rowell's enjoys today must be credited to the foresight of its founder, Clarence A. Rowell. Not only was he conscious of his duties as a merchant, but as a member of the community. When the Rowell store moved to Germantown, Mr. Rowell became well-known as a civic figure and philanthropist.

Historically the growth of Rowell's is very much like the growth of the Twentieth century. Back in 1903 the store, specializing in shirtwaists, began business at 1615 Susquehanna Avenue.

This was the Gibson Girl era and the store boasted a painted sign "The Greatest Shirt Waist Store in Philadelphia." Evidently the store made good its boast because the business was a thriving one. Its wares, however, were not limited to shirtwaists because Mr. Rowell had a keen eye for merchandise. It soon became known as a shop where ladies' finery could be bought at a price. Quick turn-over of stock and short mark-ups were the policy of the store.

It was in 1918 that Rowell's moved to Germantown. Mr. Rowell conducted the business until the time of his death in May, 1931.

With his passing, the business became a trusteeship which operates today under the active administration of Miss Elma O. Dunning and Albert Schietinger. Under their guidance it continued its growth.

In 1938 Rowell's outgrew its original location on Germantown Ave. At the time it was thought that the northwest corner of Germantown and Chelten Avenues would be its permanent home. It seemed large enough to take care of the needs of the community. But Germantown was growing and with the greater population the store became too small.

It was ten years later that it became apparent that Rowell's needed still larger quarters to take care of the business. Plans were started. The Germantown Trust Company vacated its building and it was decided that this was an ideal site on which to construct the new and larger building. Now Rowell's dominates this corner with its eight-story building.

Customers of C. A. Rowell find every type of merchandise from name designer fashions to greeting cards available. There is one exception, however. Rowell's does not carry major appliances of the

*(Continued on page 27)*

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## FROM A GERMANTOWN DIARY

*(Continued from page 16)*

fort them any I would leave here tomorrow. This dreadful war is making itself felt in our very circle heavily, besides Uncle, Cousin Wm. Rhoads, Sam Evans, and G. Garrett, Elmer Levis, and several others were drafted in our old neighborhood.

8 Mo. 5th. With breaking heart I hurried off the names of the drafted in the evening paper, and after two careful readings assured myself that Wister's name was not there. It is a large ward and there were many names I knew as D. Scull, Richard Wood, Fred Norris, and John Hilles, but none of our very near friends.

8 Mo. 7th. We had letters tonight from Cape May, Oak Bourne and Linden Street. Aunt Lizzie says it is very crowded at the shore, but that dear Grandmother is invigorated by the fresh sea-breeze.

Yesterday was Thanksgiving day, and I do admire the spirit manifested in the Presidents proclaimation that I shall copy it all here, that I may have it to refer to in the future.

### A PROCLAIMATION
### BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

It has pleased Almighty God to harken to the supplication and prayers of an afflicted people, and to vouchsafe to the Army and Navy of the United States, on the land and on the sea, victories so signal, as to furnish reasonable grounds for augmented confidence that the Union of these States will be maintained, their Constitution secured, and their peace and Prosperity permanently preserved. But these victories have been accorded not without sacrifice of life, limb, and liberty, incurred by brave, patriotic and loyal citizens. Domestic afflictions in every part of the country follows in the train of these fearful bereavements. It is meet and right to recognize and confess the presence of the Almighty Father and the power of His hand equally in these triumphs and those sorrows.

Now therefore, be it known that I do set apart Thursday, the fifth of August next, to be observed

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as a day for National Thanksgiving, Praise and Prayer, and I invite the people of the United States to assemble on that and so effective occasion in the customary places of worship and in the forms approved by their own conscience, render the homage due to the Divine Majesty for the wonderful things He has done on the nations behalf and invoke the influence of His Holy Spirit to subdue the anger which has produced, and so long sustained a needless and cruel Rebellion; to change the hearts of the insurgents, to guide the counsels of the Government, with wisdom adequate to so great a national emergency, and to visit with tender care and consolation throughout the length and breadth of our land all those who through the necessitudes of marches, voyages, battles, and seiges have been brought to suffer in mind, body, estate, or family, to lead the whole nation through paths of repentance and submission back to the perfect enjoyment of union and fraternal peace.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States, to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, this 15th day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln, William H. Seward, Secretary of State.

## ROWELL'S

(*Continued from page 25*)

larger home furnishings. This is because it is primarily a specialty shop with leanings toward the department store.

Its retailing methods are based on the most modern practices. Rowell's fourteen buyers are constantly in the wholesale markets purchasing the newest in fashions, accessories, children's wear, linens and home wares, to name only a few of its departments.

Now, approaching its fiftieth year, Rowell's feels that the most fruitful years lie ahead. With the still greater expansion of Germantown the store believes that its part in the community is also growing.

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9 *BRANCHES TO SERVE YOU*

# FRIEND'S FAIR HILL BURIAL GROUND

BY HENRY BECK

HOW MANY hundreds of thousands of Philadelphians have passed the Cemetery on the East side of Germantown Avenue extending the entire city block between Cambria Street and Indiana Avenue? How many have paused to admire the beauty of this spot, because of the low headstones and beautiful planting, really a park in an otherwise crowded part of a large city? As a boy, I was sure that this must be a cemetery for cats and dogs—didn't people have large tombstones? Here, no stones extend more than ten inches above the ground.

Fair Hill Burial Ground seems to have slipped the notice of historians of Philadelphia, although it dates back to the very beginning of the city. William Penn was an excellent real estate developer. To the purchasers of lots in the city, he gave bonus land on "Liberty" land. George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends, being one of the first purchasers, became entitled to sixteen acres of the Liberty land or the town lots. By his Will, he gave the "16 acres to Friends there, 10 of it for a close to put Friends' horses into, when they came from afar to the Meeting, that they may not be lost in the woods, and the other 6 acres for a meeting house and school house and a burying place."

As nearly as can be discovered, the first burials took place in 1702. Since that time, there have been burials every year, all strictly in accordance with the rules of the Society of Friends providing for simplicity, moderation, and avoiding ostentatious display.

Gravestones list names prominent in the history of the city, the state and the nation. Here is buried Lucretia Mott, one of the most honored women in American history. She was the great anti-slavery leader who eventually became the exponent of equal rights for women.

Anna T. Jeanes, whose Will established the Jeanes Hospital and many other charities, and former Mayor Blankenberg were buried here. Other stones read like a directory of Philadelphia colonial times—Arthur—Biddle—Bacon—Clothier—Fogg—Jeanes—Norris—Hallowell—Ridgway—Pancoast—Sharpless—Shoemaker—Tyson—Walton—Wharton—Yardley.

Many Philadelphia landmarks have disappeared without trace. It is unlikely that Fair Hill Burial Ground will vanish, but it is to be hoped that more citizens will become aware of this important site in our local history.

## WICACO . . .

*(Continued from page 22)*

manner and fashion that prevailed over the past years.

Because of its constant growth and with a provision for further expansion, the Company built the present three-story, modern plant, which has thirty-eight thousand feet of floor space on a plot of ground of nearly three acres, facing both Stenton Avenue and Louden Street. In the rear are the tracks of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.

The business can be divided roughly into two parts:

1. Jobbing, i.e., the manufacturing of bearings, brackets, gears, worms, special screws, nuts, bushings, shafts, studs, washers, bolts, textile spindles, etc.

2. The complete manufacture of Wicaco Continuous Oil Groovers, Spindle Oiling Machines and Chemical Pumps; textile parts such as spindles, pump brackets, gear boxes, drive mechanisms, etc.

This company is adequately equipped to handle any item which must be machined to tolerance.

The heat treating department contains both electric and gas furnaces. The electric furnaces are equipped with automatic records, enabling this company to accept contracts calling for high speed steel.

As previously stated, this company began business with the manufacture of screw machines. This manufacturing endeavor changed to the making of Continuous Oil Groovers, Spindle Oiling Machines, Pumps and machine parts for the Textile Industry.

This oil grooving machine development and the years of experience in precision machine work of every description brought this company into the chemical pump field. Wicaco makes special pumps designed to perform tasks not possible with ordinary pumps. Because of the vast accumulated knowledge of machine work, more and more chemical companies have brought their intricate problems to this concern for their solution.

This Company manufactures both the machine tools and the jobbing contracts from raw material. Each item is handled in the manner peculiarly fitting to its manufacture. All work done is of a precise machining type.

In many instances Wicaco has helped the prime contractor in engineering and developing new methods for producing the parts ordered. One instance can be cited in threading a certain part which had to conform to close tolerance. By milling this thread instead of placing work on a screw machine the percentage of rejects were materially cut down.

Our contribution to the war effort also included the manufacture of adaptors and plugs for naval shells, anti-aircraft gun parts, steam traps for vessels, tank parts, Diesel engine parts, time fuses, parts for Radar equipment, etc.

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# About Our Authors

SYLVESTER K. STEVENS, author and state official historian was born in Pennsylvania; graduated from State College M.A.; Ph.D. Columbia 1945; Member of Pennsylvania Historical Association, President since 1948; Federation of Historical Societies, executive secretary since 1937; American Association State and Local History, president 1945–50, treasurer since 1950; Author of "American Expansion in Hawaii", "Pennsylvania, Titan of Industry"; Editor: "Papers of Colonel Henry Bouquet" with D. H. Kent; also with Kent, "Travels in New France" by J. C. B. and "Wilderness Chronicles of Northwestern Pennsylvania." Business manager of the American Heritage magazine since 1950. Office, State Museum Building, Harrisburg, Pa.

—

J. R. SCHRAMM was born in Hancock Co., Indiana, and educated at Wabash college with A.B.; Ph.D. Washington University, (St. Louis). In the past he has been Assistant to Director, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis; Instructor in Botany, Washington University, St. Louis; Assistant Professor of Botany, Cornell University. He has been Editor in Chief of *Botanical Abstracts*, Executive Secretary of Division of Biology and Agriculture for National Research Council; and Professor of Botany, University of Pennsylvania since 1937; Director of Morris Arboretum since 1940.

He holds membership in the Botanical Society (President, 1925); American Society of Naturalists and in the American Philosophical Society, (Secretary since 1947).

Research interests Physiology of Algae; Plant Ecology of Black Mining Wasts in the Pennsylvania Anthracite Region.

—

FRED W. SCHWOEBEL was born in Philadelphia. He was a resident of Germantown for 15 years. Always interested in natural history, he began his hobby of bee-keeping while living in Atlanta, Georgia. Later he set up his apiary in southeastern New Jersey. It was there he made a study of sea-lavender resulting in the first published account of this handsome inhabitant of the salt marshes as a honey plant.

The modern bee hive fascinated him. Chancing upon an early edition of Langstroth's book "On the Hive and the Honey Bee," he first learned of its invention in Philadelphia by a Philadelphian.

In 1951 when the Morris Arboretum instituted its long planned Bee Garden, it was he who suggested the garden be made a memorial to Lorenzo L. Langstroth. So at last this benefactor of mankind will receive lasting and tangible recognition of his work in the city of his birth.

—

HENRY BECK has been in the real estate business for thirty three years. His office is at Germantown Ave. and Cambria Street, across from the old burying ground of which he writes. He is on the Board of Managers of the S.P.C.A., the Board of Managers of the Northern Branch of the Y.M.C.A., an active member of the Society of Friends, formerly Fairhill, now of Green Street meeting, and Clerk of the Committee of having oversight of Fairhill Burying Ground.

## Obituaries

MARY WILLIAMS SHOEMAKER, the daughter of Franklin and Mary Howard Shoemaker, was born May 17th, 1861, that fateful year which saw the beginning of the war between the states. She and her brother belonged to the old Shoemaker family who helped to settle Germantown. They were members of Green Street Meeting on School House Lane and were faithful supporters of the meeting and school connected with it. Mary was a life member of the Germantown Historical Society. Her interest in old Germantown never flagged. One of the ways she showed this interest was by the restoration of a room which bears her name in "Grumblethorpe", one of the oldest houses in Germantown. Her brother once owned a very remarkable collection of photographs, among them were some very fine pictures of "Grumblethorpe". This collection is now in the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

✠

HARRY A. SPANGLER, for many years an annual member of the Germantown Historical Society, will be missed by the whole community. He was a graduate of the College of Pharmacy. Through his work he had a great knowledge of the drug business in Philadelphia. He carried on the old time traditions of integrity and honesty established by his predecessors, Poley and Dean, in the same shop at the corner of Germantown Avenue and Walnut Lane. There was no drug too rare for him to search for and obtain at all cost of effort to himself.

At the time of his death he was also a member of the Germantown Horticultural Society, and of the Lions Club, of which he had been past president.


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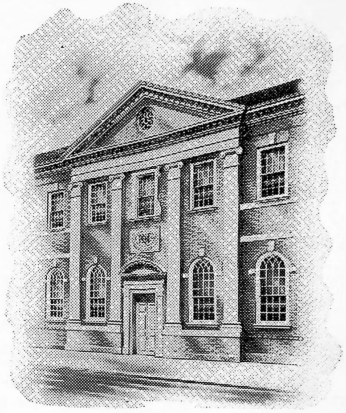
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